

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 L-03 NSC-10 DOTE-00

SCEM-02 INT-08 OMB-01 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

DRC-01 /125 W

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R 200900Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8078

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG ETRN DA

SUBJ: DANISH MEASURES ON OIL SUPPLY SITUATION

REF: A) COPENHAGEN 2829 B) COPENHAGEN 2770 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY. DANISH GOVERNMENT ON NOVEMBER 19 ANNOUNCED THAT OIL COMPAINES ARE ORDERED TO REDUCE SUPPLY OF HEATING OIL TO CUSTOMERS BY 25 PERCENT. IT ALSO PROHIBITED PLEASURE DRIVING ON SUNDAYS BY AUTOS, AIRCRAFT AND MOTOR BOATS, RESTRICTED ELECTRICITY USAGE, AND BANNED HOARDING. OIL COMPAINES WILL, IN ADDITION, REDUCE SUPPLIES OF OIL FOR INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES. NO RESTRICTIONS FOR NOW ON GASOLINE SUPPLIES. END
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SUMMARY.

1. AFTER A WEEKS INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH OIL INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT ISSUED TWO DECREES NOVEMBER 19 RESTRICTING OIL USAGE IN DENMARK. FIRST DECREE INSTRUCTS OIL COMPANIES TO REDUCE DELIVERIES OF OIL FOR HEATING PURPOSES TO 75 PERCENT OF NORMAL CONSUMPTION. THE SECOND DECREE PROHIBITS (A) PRIVATE AUTO DRIVING (BUT NOT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION) ON SUNDAYS BETWEEN 0300 AND 2400 HOURS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23; (B) SUNDAY USE OF MOTORIZED BOATS AND AIRCRAFT FOR PLEASURE PURPOSES; (C) ALL ELECTRICAL LIGHTING IN COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS OUTSIDE WORKING HOURS EXCEPTING THAT REQUIRED FOR SECURITY AND (D) HOARDING, E.G. STORING EXTRA GASOLINE OR OIL IN JERRY CANS, DRUMS, ETC.

2. DESPITE URGING OF OIL COMPANIES, GOVERNMENT HAS NOT RESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORTATION USAGE OF DISTILLATES. GOVERNMENT TOLD OIL INDUSTRY IT IS FREE TO TAKE SUCH MEASURES AS IT BELIEVED NECESSARY BUT THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOVERNMENT ITSELF TO ACT IN THIS AREA. WE UNDERSTAND OIL COMPANIES WILL, SEPARATELY, INVOKE FORCE MAJEURE CLAUSES WITH INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORTATION CUSTOMERS BEGINNING NOVEMBER 21 TO CUT BACK SUPPLIES BY AMOUNTS REGARDED NECESSARY IN LIGHT OF SUPPLY PROSPECTS EACH COMPANY FACES. DANSK ESSO PRESIDENT TOLD US THAT CUTBACKS WILL PROBABLY RANGE BETWEEN 15-25 PERCENT. THESE CUTBACKS INCLUDE AVIATION FUEL AND BUNKERAGE. (PLANNED ACTION ON AVIATION FUELS REPORTED REF A WAS DELAYED UNTIL THIS WEEK).

3. NEITHER GOVERNMENT NOR OIL COMPANIES PLAN CUTBACKS IN DELIVERIES OF GASOLINE TO SERVICE STATIONS FOR NOW. BAN ON SUNDAY DRIVING, COMBINED WITH EARLIER RESTRICTIONS TO SPEED LIMITS TO MAXIMUM OF 80 KM/HR, ARE EXPECTED TO REDUCE GASOLINE CONSUMPTION BY 20 PERCENT. IF THIS NOT THE CASE, MORE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES MAY HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

4. ON AVIATION FUEL SITUATION, PANAM TOLD US THAT, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT YET EXPERIENCED FUEL CUTBACKS (SEE PREVIOUS PARA), THEY WERE ADVISED BY NEW YORK THAT THREE EASTBOUND AND TWO WESTBOUND COPENHAGEN-LONDON SEGMENTS OF COPENHAGEN-NEW YORK FLIGHTS (FLIGHTS 102, 103) WILL BE CUT OUT BETWEEN NOW AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOVEMBER 26. PANAM DIRECTOR TOLD US THESE ACTIONS ARE UNILATERAL SINCE, THO HIS KNOWLEDGE, NO NEGOTIATIONS HAVE YET BEEN HELD WITH SAS ON MUTUAL FLIGHT CUTBACKS.
CROWE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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